

Serial No. 10/563,335
Amendment Dated: August 10, 2007
Reply to Office Action Mailed: April 10, 2007
Attorney Docket No. 095309.57217US

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1.-3. (Cancelled)

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) A hardtop convertible vehicle, comprising:

a front roof part;

a central roof part; and

a rear roof part, which includes C-pillars and a rear window;
wherein,

the roof parts are connected to one another in an articulated manner and are movable between a closed roof position and an open roof position by means of a displacing device;

in the open roof position, the roof parts are located in a trunk of the vehicle, with the rear roof part and the central roof part lying one above the other;

the rear window of the rear roof part is mounted in an articulated manner in relation to the C-pillars of the rear roof part, such that, during movement of the roof parts between the closed roof position and the open roof position, it is pivoted in relation to the C-pillars and moves to a position with its curvature oriented in the same direction as the central roof part;

in the open roof position, the front roof part assumes a position along one of a backrest and a motor vehicle tank outside the rear roof part and the central roof part. within the trunk which is one of i) between a backrest of a rear vehicle seat and a vehicle fuel tank, and ii) along the vehicle fuel tank and behind the same relative to a forward direction of travel.

Claim 5. (Cancelled)

Claim 6. (Previously Presented) The vehicle as claimed in
Claim 4, wherein:

the displacing device has a driving device; and

the roof parts are connected to one another via respective lever

arrangements.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended)

A method of operating a

convertible top of a convertible vehicle having a hardtop comprising a front roof part, a central roof part and a rear roof part that includes C-pillars and a rear window, said method comprising:

moving said vehicle top from a closed position, in which it encloses a passenger compartment of said vehicle, into an open position, in which said passenger compartment is open to the exterior; and

in said open position, storing said vehicle top in a trunk space at the rear of said vehicle; wherein,

during movement of said top between the closed position and the open position, i) the rear window is pivoted relative to the C-pillars and moves to a position with its curvature oriented in the same direction as the central roof part, ii) the front roof part is moved into a position in said trunk space which position is ~~way from the rear window and the central roof part, and is adjacent to one of i) between a vehicle backrest of a rear vehicle seat and a vehicle fuel tank, and ii) along the vehicle fuel tank and behind the same relative to a forward direction of travel.~~

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Claim 8. (Currently Amended) A method of storing a convertible vehicle top of a convertible vehicle having a hardtop comprising a front roof part, a central roof part, and a rear roof part that includes a rear window, said method comprising:

storing said central roof part and said window of said rear roof part in a trunk of said vehicle, with said window being nested with said central roof part one above the other, with its curvature oriented congruent with the central roof part; and

storing said front roof part at a location in said trunk that is one of i) between a backrest of a rear vehicle seat and a vehicle fuel tank, and ii) along the vehicle fuel tank and behind the same relative to a forward direction of travel. ~~removed from said central and rear roof parts;~~

~~wherein, said location is adjacent one of a vehicle backrest and a vehicle fuel tank.~~